

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2 and 15 to 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 3 to 7 and 9 to 14 as follows:

A2 1. (Amended) A press for making a food patty, comprising:
a mould having an opening therethrough and defining a weight; and
a carrying component having a substantially flat panel and a handle affixed to said flat panel, said flat panel having a generally planar surface to contact a food product to be pressed into a patty, said handle being sized to pass through said opening to allow said mould to move along said handle, said mould being moveable along said handle and positionable to overlie said flat panel thereby to facilitate the application of pressure to said food product.

3. (Amended) A press according to claim 1 wherein said mould is in the form of a disc having top and bottom generally circular surfaces bridged by a smooth, peripheral sidewall and wherein said flat panel corresponds generally in shape to said bottom surface.

A3 4. (Amended) A press according to claim 3 wherein said opening is positioned at the centre of said disc and wherein said handle is centrally affixed to a surface of said flat panel opposite to said generally planar surface.

5. (Amended) A press according to claim 1 wherein said mould and carrying component are formed of stainless steel.

6. (Amended) A press according to claim 5 further including a loop affixed to a free distal end of said handle.

7. (Amended) A press according to claim 3 wherein said disc has a diameter greater than the diameter of said panel.

A4 9. (Amended) A press according to claim 8 wherein said weight member is in the form of a disc having top and bottom generally circular surfaces bridged by a smooth, peripheral sidewall and wherein said flat panel corresponds generally in shape to said bottom surface.

10. (Amended) A press according to claim 9 wherein said opening is positioned at the centre of said disc and wherein said upstanding member is centrally affixed to said flat panel.

11. (Amended) A press according to claim 10 wherein said weight member, upstanding member and flat panel are formed of stainless steel.

12. (Amended) A press according to claim 11 further including a loop affixed to a free distal end of said upstanding member.

13. (Amended) A press according to claim 12 wherein said loop is elongate and acts as a retainer to inhibit said weight member from being removed from said upstanding member.

14. (Amended) A press according to claim 9 wherein said disc has a diameter greater than the diameter of said panel.

[Please add new claims 18 to 32 as follows:]

18. (New) A press according to claim 1 wherein said handle and flat panel are rotatable with respect to said mould.

19. (New) A press according to claim 18 wherein said mould is in the form of a disc having top and bottom generally circular surfaces bridged by a smooth, peripheral sidewall and wherein said flat panel corresponds generally in shape to said bottom surface.

20. (New) A press according to claim 19 wherein said opening is positioned at the centre of said disc and wherein said handle is centrally affixed to a surface of said flat panel opposite to said generally planar surface.

21. (New) A press according to claim 3 wherein said upstanding member and flat panel are rotatable with respect to said weight member.

22. (New) A press according to claim 21 wherein said weight member is in the form of a disc having top and bottom generally circular surfaces bridged by a smooth, peripheral sidewall and wherein said flat panel corresponds generally in shape to said bottom surface.
23. (New) A press according to claim 22 wherein said opening is positioned at the centre of said disc and wherein said upstanding member is centrally affixed to said flat panel.
24. (New) A press for making a food patty, comprising:
a weight member having an opening therethrough; and
a carrying component having a substantially flat panel and a handle affixed to said flat panel, said flat panel having a generally planar surface to contact a food product to be pressed into a patty, said handle being sized to pass through said opening to allow said weight member to move along said handle, said weight member being positionable to overlie said flat panel thereby to facilitate the application of pressure to said food product, wherein said weight member is a disc having top and bottom generally circular surfaces bridged by a smooth, peripheral sidewall and wherein said flat panel corresponds generally in shape to said bottom surface.
25. (New) A press according to claim 24 wherein said disc has a diameter greater than the diameter of said flat panel.
26. (New) A press according to claim 25 wherein said opening is positioned at the centre of said disc and wherein said handle is centrally affixed to said flat panel.
27. (New) A press according to claim 26 wherein said weight member and carrying component are formed of stainless steel.
28. (New) A press according to claim 26 further including a loop affixed to a free distal end of said handle.
29. (New) A press according to claim 28 wherein said loop acts as a retainer to inhibit said weight member from being removed from said handle.

30. (New) A press according to claim 24 wherein said handle and flat panel are rotatable with respect to said weight member.

31. (New) A press for making a food patty, comprising:
a weight member having a passage therethrough; and
a carrying component having a substantially flat panel and a handle affixed to said flat panel, said flat panel having a generally planar surface to contact a food product to be pressed into a patty, said handle being sized to pass through said passage to allow said weight member to move along said handle, said weight member being positionable to overlie said flat panel thereby to facilitate the application of pressure to said food product, said handle and flat panel being rotatable with respect to said weight member.

32. (New) A press according to claim 31 wherein the periphery of said weight member extends beyond the periphery of said flat panel.

33. (New) A press according to claim 32 wherein said weight member and flat panel are generally circular in plan.

REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration of the application as amended. The specification has been amended to contain a specific reference to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/178,326 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.78(a) (2) and (a) (5).

Claims 2 and 15 to 17 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 3 to 7 and 9 to 14 have been amended to define more clearly the Applicants' invention. New claims 18 to 33 have been added to define further aspects of the Applicants' invention. Claims 1, 3 to 14 and 18 to 33 are now pending in the present application and are believed to distinguish patentably over the cited prior art.

On a formal note, the Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and define clearly the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. Claim 2 has been cancelled to obviate the rejection.